



Update on the “Extended Producer Responsibility Evaluation of Greenhouse Gas Emissions Associated with Products” Contract and Proposed Products for Case Studies

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CalRecycle Public Meeting

Background

- Supports department need for additional science-based evaluation of products
- Supports AB 32 Scoping Plan (GHG focus)
- UC Berkeley and UC Santa Barbara working collaboratively
- Contract term ends May 2012

Primary Objectives

- Develop scientifically-based approaches to analyze products, focusing on GHG impacts
- Prepare case studies to understand potential benefits of a product stewardship approach

Major Tasks

- Develop a list of products and identify their life cycle GHG impacts
- Update existing CA-specific economic input-output model with EOL impacts
- Identify products with most potential to reduce life cycle GHG emissions
- Develop 3 case studies

Methodology for Selection of 20 Products

Independent, weighted analysis of products in CA's waste stream, considering these impacts:

- Environmental
- Waste management
- Product management

List of 20 Products

- Mattresses & box springs
- Upholstered furniture
- Carpet
- Paint and paint containers
- Pesticides and containers
- Oil filters
- Pharmaceuticals
- Mercury-containing Lamps (fluorescent tubes & CFLs)
- Plastic bottles
- Plastic food containers
- Power tools
- Refrigerators / Freezers
- Household batteries (single use & rechargeable)
- Washers
- Vacuum cleaners
- Computers: desktop CPU
- Computers: laptops & tablet
- Monitors & TVs
- Hand-held electronics (including hand-held games)
- Plastic film (e.g., pre-production plastic pellets, agricultural film, plastic bags, shrink wrap)

Status of CA-Specific Model

- Updated with products from 'List of 20'
- Selected products will be run through the model for GHG impacts
- Gathering EOL data for priority products identified by CalRecycle
 - Batteries
 - Carpet
 - Mercury-containing lighting
 - Paint
 - Plastic film
 - Plastic food containers

Scope of Case Studies

- In-depth research into GHG and EOL impacts
- Identify likely effect of product stewardship activities on GHG and other impacts
- Recommendations for reducing those impacts through industry-led product stewardship

Potential Case Study Products

- Household batteries
- Carpet
- Mattresses
- Paint
- Plastic film
- Plastic food containers

Next Steps

- Project team will select case study products
- Report back in December on products selected and Spring 2012 on the conclusion of the project

Questions?